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**BRIEFING MEMORANDUM**

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**TO:** SPCSA Board  
**FROM:** Melissa Mackedon and Colin Seale  
**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item # 11—CSAN Conference Update  
**DATE:** August 26, 2016

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Greetings to Nevada's Charter School Community!

I hope you are all as excited as we are about the start of the upcoming school year! On behalf of the Charter School Association of Nevada (CSAN), I wish you the best of success as you take on the challenging task of leading the over 30,000 students we serve on a path to academic achievement. We would love for CSAN to be a powerful resource for you on this journey, so please join us on our mission of helping Nevada charters thrive academically, organizationally, financially, academically, and politically.

To kickoff this year, we are hosting CSAN's Annual Charter School Conference on **Saturday, October 1, 2016** from **8am-4pm** in Las Vegas at the **American Preparatory Academy**, (8377 West Patrick Lane, Las Vegas, NV 89113). Our theme this year is **Rising Together: Serving Our Increasingly Diverse Students in an Increasing Complex Environment**. We've experienced tremendous growth in our charter movement, but we still need to build an infrastructure of professional learning, grassroots advocacy, and organizational support to meet our growing needs. We want to change this, and we need your help to do this together! Here are 3 ways you can help:

1) Share your strengths by responding to our **Call for Proposals** (link here): We are hoping to provide 3 different tracks to meet the diverse needs of educators, school leaders, and board members/community supporters who will be attending. So please submit your session ideas and share this any dynamic presenters who may be interested! All proposals are welcome, but we are especially interested in sessions focused on meeting the needs of at-risk, special education, and English Learner student populations, helping charter boards improve their organizational and financial practices, and helping schools improve grassroots and formal outreach and advocacy efforts. Proposals are due on or

before **Friday, September 9**. All applicants will be informed if their proposals have been selected by **Wednesday, September 14**.

2) Register your teachers, leadership team, and governing boards for the conference by clicking here: (link). By hosting our conference on a Saturday, we are hoping to make it easier for schools to send lots of teachers and administrators.

3) Join CSAN if you haven't already! Many of you have received our mailers, emails, and phone calls asking for you to formally join CSAN. Your membership will help us in our efforts to lobby for facilities funds and a wide variety of important advocacy issues up for debate in the 2017 legislative session and build our capacity to build a more connected, more informed charter movement.

4) Help us find **sponsors** and **vendors** for our conference! Do you partner with businesses who would love the opportunity to expose their products or services to our network of charter schools? If so, please send them our Sponsorship Packet (link to packet) to ask for their participation.

Thanks so much, and please feel free to contact Katy Foley at (number/email) for any questions you have about the conference or about joining CSAN. To stay in touch, please like and follow us on our Facebook page (link). Best of luck for the upcoming school year, and I look forward to seeing you at our annual conference!

Thanks!

Colin Seale  
President, Charter School Association of Nevada